

Missouri Ethics Commission Elizabeth L. Ziegler, Executive Director

**VOLUME 44** 

January 2020

# 2020 Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) filing deadlines

#### 2020 Candidates:

If you are required to file a PFD as a candidate in the April or August elections, the due dates are:

Election Date	14-Day Due Date	21-Day Due Date
April 7, 2020 Municipal Election	February 4, 2020	February 11, 2020
August 4, 2020 Primary Election	April 14, 2020	April 21, 2020

If you are a candidate in a city with a Primary Election, please refer to the *Notice to Candidate* form you received when filing for office for the PFD deadlines.

Failure to file by the 14-day due date will result in \$10 per day late fees. Failure to file by the 21-day due date will result in disqualification and removal from the ballot, unless your political subdivision has a conflict of interest ordinance/policy on file with the MEC. If filing deadlines are then not met, penalties (if any) are assessed by the subdivision according to its ordinance.

#### **Annual Filers:**

If your name was submitted to our office by a political subdivision (county, city, school district, fire district, etc.) as a person required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) due to a position held in 2019, you should have received a letter with instructions for efiling along with your MEC Online ID and Password. You must file your PFD by **5:00 pm on May 1, 2020**.

If you fail to file by May 1, 2020, you will be assessed a late filing fee of \$10.00 per day. After 30 days the fee increases to \$100.00 per day, not to exceed \$6,000.00. Additional penalties may also apply.

An annual filer who is also a candidate should file their PFD by the earliest due date. Annual filers must file for each year (or portion of a year) for which they hold a position that requires the filing of a PFD.

**TIP:** Time period covered is the calendar year of 2019, unless you are a candidate, in which case the covered date extends through the last day of candidate filing for your position.

# **MEC Calculates New Contribution Limits**

New limits apply to candidates for General Assembly

The Missouri Ethics Commission calculated new contribution limits in accordance with the Constitution and determined that the following limits are in effect beginning January 1, 2020:

For the office of state senator: \$2,559;

For the office of state representative: \$2,046.

These contribution limits apply to the August 2020 Primary and November 2020 General Election.

A primary election and the succeeding general election are considered two separate elections.

Contributions for the general election cannot be received until after the primary election.

Article III, Section 2(c), contains campaign contribution limits and a methodology for regular adjustments. This new provision to the Missouri Constitution established the initial contribution limits and base year amounts as follows: \$2,500 for

the office of state senator, and \$2,000 for the office of state representative.

These limits are to "be adjusted on the first day of January in each even-numbered year hereafter by multiplying the base year amount by the cumulative Consumer Price Index and rounded to the nearest dollar amount, for all years after 2018."

View a full listing of Contribution Limits HERE

#### Inside this issue:

PFD Deadlines
New Contribution Limits
Paid For By
Employment
Lobbyist Reminder
Rules/Advisory Opinions
MEC Employee Spotlight

# Paid for By Requirements for Printed Materials

It is important to be aware of laws related to "paid for by" requirements on printed materials.

The law requires that any pamphlet, circular, handbill, sample ballot, advertisement including newspaper or other periodical advertisement, sign, including signs for display on motor vehicles, or other imprinted or lettered material <u>relative</u> to a candidate or ballot measure, must contain the proper "Paid for By" information.

It is often misunderstood that informational materials for ballot issues do not require a "paid for by" disclaimer, but they do.

See <u>Paid For By Requirements</u> brochure and <u>tutorial</u> for the proper statement and exclusions.

#### **SIGNS - Frequently Asked Questions**

Can I use my old signs from a past election? Yes, but you must assign them a fair market value and record/report them as an in-kind contribution. The "paid-for-by" on the signs must be correct as of the time the signs were originally paid for (prior election info).

#### Where can I put up my signs?

MEC has no authority to govern placement of campaign signs, however, does recommend that candidates have the permission of the property owner before placing signs. Also verify with municipality if an ordinance exists and with MoDOT for their regulations.

\*\*\*\*\* **Required Sponsor Who Paid For the Information** Campaign (following the words **Material?** "Paid for by") Candidate from First name and last name by which personal funds candidate is known (no candidate (Ex: Paid for by (First committee exists) Name) (Last Name)) \*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* **Required Sponsor** Who Paid For the **Information** Campaign (following the words **Material?** "Paid for by") Official name of the committee, followed by Candidate the name of the treasurer (EX: Paid for by (committee Committee name), (treasurer name), Treasurer) \*\*\*\*\*\*



#### WANTED BY THE MEC

The Missouri Ethics Commission is currently searching for an individual matching the description of Training Assistant, a professional with an aptitude for written, verbal, and social media

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT THE MEC.

# **LOBBYIST**

# Monthly Expenditure Reports

Due by 5pm on 2/10 & 3/10

**List of Principals and Legislative Action**Due 3/15

START TODAY.

Physical address:

3411 A Knipp Dr. Jefferson City MO 65109

**Mailing address:** 

PO Box 1370 Jefferson City MO 65102

Phone: 800-392-8660 573-751-2020

Email: helpdesk@mec.mo.gov



# **Rules and Advisory Opinions**

Orders of Rulemaking were published in the February 3, 2020 *Missouri Register*, scheduled to go into effect March 30, 2020. Some of the <u>rules</u> relate to the registration and reporting requirements of out-of-state committees, committees domiciled outside of the state of Missouri, and federal political action committees which make contributions or expenditures to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures in Missouri.

These rules are consistent with Article III, Section 2(f) of the Missouri Constitution. This provision prohibits candidates for the General Assembly from accepting contributions from any federal political action committee unless the committee files disclosure reports with the MEC.



# **Recently Issued Advisory Opinions**

2020.01.CI.001 - 105.456.1(3)

Section 105.456.1(3), RSMo, does not prohibit an elected official from accepting compensation to represent a client appealing a state agency decision to the Administrative Hearing Commission. Once such an adversary proceeding has begun, the elected official would not be prohibited from engaging in settlement negotiations with the state agency.

#### 2019.12.L.008 - 105.470, 105.473

The members of the University of Missouri Board of Curators are not required to register as legislative lobbyists by virtue of their appointment in and of itself, and they are not required to register in order to respond to inquiries from the General Assembly. The opinion gives additional guidance as to registration requirement

#### 2019.10.CI.007 - 105.456.1(3)

Section 105.456.1(3) prohibits members of the general assembly and statewide elected officials, who are also attorneys, from negotiating on behalf of paying clients with state agencies prior to the formal initiation of an adversary proceeding. The statute does not prohibit negotiation and informal contact after the filing of a complaint or petition or other similar pleading, nor does it prohibit such contact when no consideration is given.

# MEC Employee Spotlight: Shelley Hughey

Shelley Hughey has worked for the state of Missouri, Office of Administration for 21 years, 11 of those as an Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director of the Missouri Ethics Commission. Shelley is a native of Kansas City, Kansas and is a life-long, diehard fan of the Chiefs and Royals. When not at work, you can find Shelley playing volleyball or enjoying the outdoors where she loves to fish, camp, and kayak with her daughter and husband.



\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

A resource for navigating through record-keeping, reporting, and committee requirements. **Get started** 

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# MEC News

Missouri Ethics Commission Elizabeth L. Ziegler, Executive Director

**VOLUME 45** 

April 2020

# Meet Commissioner Cook

The Missouri Ethics Commission is pleased to announce that Robert C. Cook was recently named our newest Commissioner.

Commissioner Cook is retired from the U.S. Postal Service, holding a variety of positions throughout his career for over 30 years.

Commissioner Cook has resided in Boone County his entire life. He served on the Hallsville School Board from 1990 to 1998, and he is a former member of the Hallsville Park Board. He has been an active participant in civic activities, including the Hallsville Jaycees, the Hallsville Lion's Club, and the Hallsville Little League. He also has served as a high school sports official

He serves from the Fourth Congressional District, for a term through March 15, 2024.



#### Inside this issue:

- Commission Update
- Training
- Have you filed your PFD?
- Employee Spotlight
- Campaign Finance Reminders
- Lobbying Report Due
- When To Form a Committee
- MEC Website Survey

# **Training Information**

# Assist and Educate Video Series launches on MEC YouTube Channel

As part of our efforts to increase awareness an understanding of the law, the MEC is excited to announce new training videos related to ethics laws. Named the Assist and Educate series, these videos can be viewed on the official MEC YouTube channel.

The videos average just a few minutes each. Videos are also grouped by topic into playlists for more comprehensive study.

Our first playlist in the series covers "paid for by" disclosures for printed campaign material, such as yard signs and flyers.

#### **New Candidate Training**

As an alternative to in-person trainings the MEC also created a YouTube version of our Campaign Finance Training for Candidates and Treasurers. This fundamental training will provide candidates and committees with information related to record-keeping, reporting, and other campaign finance topics.

By clicking subscribe below you will be automatically notified when new videos become available.

#### **SUBSCRIBE**



#### Covid-19 Update

Filing deadlines and late fee assessments remain in effect. We understand that this time can be a challenge for our filers. MEC employees are working hard to assist filers and the public over the phone and through email to comply with these deadlines. Please reach out for assistance, if necessary, to help you comply with the deadlines. While campaign finance and lobbyist filings are electronic, personal financial disclosures (PFD) can be filed electronically or by mail. We strongly encourage those who can to file personal financial disclosures electronically. A link to obtain an ID to file a PFD is available on our website.

# Personal Financial Disclosure - Have you filed?

# Annual Filers: May 1 deadline is here!

If your name was submitted to our office by a political subdivision (ex: state agency, county, city, board, school district, etc.) as a person required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) statement because of a position you held or now hold with that subdivision, then you must electronically file your PFD by **5:00 pm on May 1**<sup>st</sup>, **2020** (or have it postmarked by April 30, 2020).

Time period covered is from Jan 1, 2019 - Dec 31, 2019 (or the portion of the year that you served).

#### E-File your PFD

Use ID and password sent to you in January to <u>log-in</u> and file PFD

IF you don't recall your ID/password click <u>HERE</u> to have them emailed to the address on file.

See PFD FAQs for more info.

# **Campaign Finance Reminders and Tips**

Contribution limits were adjusted in January of 2020 and are as follows. Candidates for:

> Statewide office: \$2.650: Iudicial office: \$2.650: State Senator: \$2,559: State Representative: \$2.046:

- These contribution limits apply to the August 2020 Primary Election and then the November 2020 General Election. A primary election and the succeeding general election are considered two separate elections. Contributions for the general election cannot be received until after the primary election.
- There are no contribution limits on candidates for local offices. (Some cities and counties have local contribution limits for their candidates (e.g., St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Kansas City). Verify with governing body.
- While the contributions limits do not apply to local candidates, there are numerous provisions that apply to all candidate committees, including local candidates. Under these provisions, candidate committees:
  - **Cannot** accept contributions from another candidate committee
  - **Cannot** make contributions to another candidate committee
  - **Cannot** make contributions to PACs
  - **Cannot** accept contributions from corporations or labor organizations
  - Can receive contributions from PACs
  - Can make contributions to political party committees
  - **Can** receive contributions from political party committees

June 2, 2020 **General Municipal** Election

#### **Forming a Committee**

- Continuing (PAC) form by 04/03/20 Other committees form by 5/03/20
- **April Quarterly** (mandatory for all committees)
- ·Closes 3/31/20
- •Due 04/15/20

#### 8 Day Before \*

- ·Closes 05/21/20
- •Due 05/26/20
- 06/02/2020 Election

#### 30 Day After\*\*

- ·Closes 06/27/20
- · Due 07/02/20
- Labor organizations, corporations and Missouri LLCs that elect to be classified as a corporation under federal tax code are prohibited from making contributions (monetary or in-kind) to candidate committees, exploratory committees, political parties, and political party committees.
- No candidate for the general assembly can accept a contribution from a federal PAC unless the federal PAC has a registered committee with the MEC.
- Successful candidates: although the report is called the 30 Day After Election Report, if you are successful and had expenditures, the report must be filed BEFORE being sworn-in. Time period is from day after last report closed through the day before the swearing-in.
- To aid in recording and importing contributions and loans received, itemized expenditures all over \$100, and contributions made, filers can use the Import Function in the e-filing system. View Excel Template, Import Function Tutorial, and Import Specifications.
- Business cards used for campaign purposes are considered printed material, see Campaign Materials Identification Requirements (Paid-for-by) Brochure.
- **Examples of miscellaneous receipts** include interest on the committee's bank account, receipt of a rejected contribution, refund of overpayment to a vendor.
- Before opening a bank account for the committee learn the bank's requirements. If the bank requires an EIN number go to <u>irs.gov</u>. Campaign finance law requires a bank account when registering a committee with
- State law does not regulate when campaign signs can be displayed in cities or counties. Contact the city or county for their requirements, if any.

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# **Employee Spotlight**

## **Tory Post: MEC Network Administrator**

Tory Post is the Network Administrator for the MEC, employed since August 2015. Many in the office would describe Tory as the office problem solver. He can be relied on to go the extra mile when needed. Tory's positive attitude motivates everyone around him. Tory lives in Argyle with his wife and 3 children. He is an avid hockey fan, "Lets Go Blues", enjoys spending time in the outdoors, and going on ATV rides with friends and family.

# Lobbyist

# Monthly Expenditure Reports

Due by 5pm on 5/11 & 6/10

## List of Principals and Legislative Action

Due 5/30

# When to Form and Register a Committee

If you are not certain whether or not you need to form and register a committee, the MEC has resources to assist you in making that determination. If you know you are going to form and register a committee, use the Committee Checklist to ensure all the steps are completed.



Trying to decide if forming a committee is right for you?

Review our <u>When to Form & Register a</u> <u>Committee</u> brochure



Have you already decided to form a committee?

Use the <u>Committee Checklist</u> to navigate the requirements of forming and registering a committee.

# **MEC Website Survey**

The MEC is conducting a short survey about our website and we'd like to hear from you.

We value every response and will consider each suggestion for future decisions.

Help make our website easier to use, take the survey now!

**Take Survey** 



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# MEC News

Missouri Ethics Commission Elizabeth L. Ziegler, Executive Director

**VOLUME 46** 

**July 2020** 

# Meet Commissioner Frischer

The Missouri Ethics Commission is pleased to announce that Helene Frischer was recently named our newest Commissioner.

Commissioner Frischer is the owner of Law Office of Helene Frischer in St. Charles, Missouri. She began practicing law in Missouri in 1994 after practicing in Ohio. She received her Juris Doctorate and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations from Drake University.

She serves from the Second Congressional District, for a term through March 15, 2024.

To learn more about Commissioner Frischer, visit her bio on our <u>website</u>.



# **New Annual Report System**

The MEC recently announced its launch of an online reporting system for annual statistics in the areas of campaign finance, lobbying, and personal financial disclosure information for public officials.

The MEC Annual Report System includes real-time data, in both graphic and table form, reported to the Commission during a calendar year. Electronic information can be found from calendar years 2017 forward. Because this is real-time data, this information is updated as reports are filed or amended, even for a prior year. Information provided for the current year is displayed as available.

"This system is part of an ongoing effort by the MEC team to provide up-todate information to the public on its website. We continuously seek ways to further the mission of the Commission by promoting transparency, and by educating and increasing awareness of these important laws concerning public elections and officials," stated Elizabeth Ziegler, Executive Director.

While the Commission's final actions in enforcement cases are available on its website, additional statistical information on enforcement will be added in the future.

# MEC Report Year: 2020 Welcome to the MEC Electronic Annual Report System About the Missouri Ethics Commission Campaign Finance Lobbying Personal Financial Disclosure Educational Resources



## Inside this issue:

- New Annual Report System
- Annual Operating Budget
- Campaign Finance Reminders
- Employee Spotlight
- Political Subdivision Ordinances
- Lobbying Report Due
- E-filing Tutorials

# **Annual Operating Budget**

Political subdivisions must confirm to the MEC whether their Annual Operating Budget (AOB) is:

- Over \$1 million or
- •\$1 million or under

You should have received an email with the Subdivision ID and password. Please note, passwords are case-sensitive.

#### To e-file your subdivision's AOB

Starting July 1, through August 15, go to our <u>website</u> and:

- Under Login, enter your Subdivision ID, then click Sign In. On the next page enter your password, then click Log-In. (use your political subdivision's log-in information)
- 2. Update subdivision contact information, if necessary.
- 3. Confirm your AOB. (you will receive email confirmation)

# **Campaign Finance Reminders and Tips**

Contribution limits in effect for candidates for statewide, judicial office, and the General Assembly are
as follows:

Statewide office: \$2,650; Judicial office: \$2,650; State Senator: \$2,559; State Representative: \$2,046;

- These contribution limits apply to the August 2020 Primary Election and then the November 2020 General Election. A primary election and the succeeding general election are considered two separate elections. Contributions for the general election cannot be received until after the primary election.
- There are no contribution limits on candidates for local offices. (Some
  cities and counties have local contribution limits for their candidates (e.g., St. Louis City,
  St. Louis County, Kansas City). Verify with governing body.)
- While the contributions limits do not apply to local candidates, there are numerous provisions that apply to all candidate committees, including local candidates. Under these provisions, candidate committees:
  - Cannot accept contributions from another candidate committee
  - Cannot make contributions to another candidate committee
  - Cannot make contributions to PACs
  - Cannot accept contributions from corporations or labor organizations
  - Can receive contributions from PACs
  - Can make contributions to political party committees

• **Can** receive contributions from political party committees

# August 4, 2020 Primary Election

#### Forming a Committee

- •Continuing (PAC) form by 06/05/20
- •Other committees form by 07/05/20

#### 40 Day Before\*

Not required for this election

#### **July Quarterly**

- •Close 06/30/20
- •Due 07/15/20

#### 8 Day Before\*\*

- •Close 07/23/20
- •Due 07/27/20



#### 30 Day After\*\*\*

- Close 08/29/20
- Due 09/03/20



• Labor organizations, corporations, and Missouri LLCs that elect to be classified as a corporation under federal tax code are prohibited from making contributions (monetary or in-kind) to candidate committees, exploratory committees, political parties, and political party committees.

• **No candidate for the General Assembly** can accept a contribution from a federal PAC unless the federal PAC has a registered committee with the MEC <u>60 days prior</u> to the election.

- **To aid in recording and importing contributions** and loans received, itemized expenditures all over \$100, and contributions made, filers can use the Import Function in the e-filing system. View <a href="Excel Template">Excel Template</a>, <a href="Import Specifications">Import Specifications</a>.
- **Examples of miscellaneous receipts** include interest on the committee's bank account, receipt of a rejected contribution, and the refund of overpayment to a vendor. A miscellaneous disbursement is a returned contribution.
- **State law does not** regulate when campaign signs can be displayed in cities or counties. Contact the city or county for their requirements, if any.
- **PACs and political party committees** which make an expenditure in support/opposition of a candidate/ ballot measure would report the expense under the expenditures section <u>and</u> also on the supplemental form.

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# **Employee Spotlight**

#### **Kaley Burroughs—Training Assistant**

Kaley Burroughs is the Training Assistant and newest member of the MEC team. Kaley recently graduated with "purple pride" from Truman State University as a political science and communication double major. A St. Louis native, Kaley just moved to Jefferson City where she likes to spend her time reading historical fiction, going for a jog, and experimenting in the kitchen.

# **Political Subdivision Ordinances**

Section 105.485.4, RSMo allows each political subdivision the option of adopting their own method of disclosing conflicts of interest and personal financial disclosure. If your subdivision chooses to adopt an ordinance, state statute requires that the ordinance be adopted every other year by September 15. A certified copy of the ordinance must be filed with the MEC within 10 days of adoption.

Please note—the minimum requirements outlined in statute for an ordinance do not include penalties. Any penalties that the subdivision is authorized to enforce should be established by the ordinance. Upon adopting the ordinance, the political subdivision becomes responsible for enforcing it.

All candidates must file a Financial Interest Statement for Political Subdivisions if they have any transactions over \$500 with the political subdivision, even if candidates are not listed specifically in the ordinance. If candidates do not have any transactions, consult ordinance for filing requirements. Make sure to review the ordinance prior to adoption to ensure it includes all of the aspects desired by the political subdivision.

To access a sample ordinance, complete the following steps:

1. From the top of the MEC <a href="https://example.com/homepage">homepage</a>, click the "Financial Disclosure" tab



2. Once on the "Financial Disclosure" <u>tab</u>, scroll to the "Popular Topics" section near the bottom of the page and select "Sample Ordinance."

#### **Popular Topics**



# **Lobbyists**

## Monthly Expenditure Reports Due by 5 p.m. on

7/10, 8/10, & 9/10

# New candidate?

When it comes to filing your reports, you have questions. Our tutorials have answers!

Click "Watch Now" to view a step-by-step overview explaining how to file your reports. Then, click on the "Educational Resources" tab on the MEC homepage to explore more detailed information.

**Watch Now** 





# MEC News

Missouri Ethics Commission Elizabeth L. Ziegler, Executive Director

VOLUME 47

October 2020

# Political Subdivisions: Annual Filers List Reminder

Political subdivisions with an annual operating budget over \$1 million will electronically submit their list of required annual Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) filers to the MEC by December 3, 2020.

Upon logging into the Political Subdivision E-filing System, both last year's annual filers and last year's candidates will be displayed. Carefully review each section, update each filer, and remove those no longer required to file.

**Reminder:** If an annual filer held the position at any time in 2020, they are required to file for the time period served. Each political subdivision must notify designated filers that their names have been submitted. The MEC will also send notice to each filer in January.

PFDs are due by May 3, 2021 unless the filer is also a candidate. If so, their PFD is due 14 days after the close of filing for candidacy.

# **New MEC Logo Announced**

The MEC adopted its new logo in the fall of 2020, born out of a branding initiative to define and visually express the values of the Commission. The new logo is intended to serve as a beacon for those in need of guidance as they navigate Missouri's ethics laws. The radial symmetry of the design is designed to convey balance, consistency, and fairness.

## **Ethos Icon Design Elements**



Four primary points (in vertical and horizontal orientation) represent the categories of our duty: campaign finance, lobbying, conflict of interest, and financial disclosure.



In the negative space between those points are four diagonal points which represent a commitment to Missouri citizens and our efforts to reach the far corners of the Show Me State.



The abstract center element was influenced by federal era convex mirrors. Conceptually, the mirror represents the relationship between ethics and the individual. This element coincides with our branding themes of ethics, education, and enforcement.



#### Inside this issue:

- MEC's New Logo
- PFD Annual Filers
- 2021 Election News
- Campaign Finance Reminders and Tips
- Employee Spotlight
- 2020 Legislative Update
- Calendar Check

# ATTENTION ELECTION AUTHORITIES: 2021 Election Packets Coming Soon

- Review the entire packet: Instruction letter, 2021 Guide to Ethics Laws, PFD Forms (AOB > \$1 million), and Notice to Candidate
- Review your candidate declaration form: It should include that candidates have no outstanding campaign disclosure reports due from any prior elections. Contact the MEC for more information.
- Remember: § 130.071.1, RSMo prohibits candidates from taking office until all reports are filed.



# **Campaign Finance Reminders and Tips**

• Contribution limits for candidates for statewide, judicial office, and the General Assembly are:

Statewide office: \$2,650; Judicial office: \$2,650; State Senator: \$2,559; State Representative: \$2,046;

• While these contributions limits do not apply to local candidates, there are numerous provisions that apply to all candidate committees, including local candidates. Under these provisions:

#### Candidate Committees CAN

- Receive contributions from PACs;
- Make contributions to political party committees; and
- Receive contributions from political party committees.

#### Candidate Committees CANNOT

- Accept contributions from another candidate committee;
- Make contributions to another candidate committee;
- Make contributions to PACs; or
- Accept contributions from corporations or labor organizations.

(Some cities and counties have local contribution limits for their candidates. Verify with governing body)

- Labor organizations, corporations, and Missouri LLCs that elect to be classified as a corporation under federal tax code are prohibited from making contributions (monetary or in-kind) to candidate committees, exploratory committees, political parties, and political party committees.
- A corporation or labor organization cannot contribute its own treasury funds to its connected PAC. However, the corporation or labor organization may contribute its own funds to an unconnected PAC.
- **PACs and political party committees** making an expenditure in support/opposition of a candidate/ballot measure must report the expense under the expenditures section <u>and</u> on the supplemental form.
- **Any out-of-state or foreign corporation** must be registered to do business in Missouri to contribute to any campaign finance committee.
- Successful candidates moving on to the November 3, 2020 general election need to remember to reset their prior election totals on the 2020 October Quarterly Report.
- The general election cycle ends at 11:59 p.m. on November 3, 2020. At 12:00 a.m. on November 4, 2020, the next primary cycle begins.
- To aid in recording and importing contributions and loans received, itemized expenditures over \$100, and contributions made, filers can use the Import Function in the e-filing system. View <a href="Excel Template">Excel Template</a>, <a href="Import Function Tutorial">Import Function Tutorial</a>, and <a href="Import Specifications">Import Specifications</a>.

# **Training Update**

With in-person training opportunities limited due to COVID-19, the MEC has expanded its virtual training options!

Check your inbox for upcoming webinars about required reports, after-election guidelines, conflict of interest, and more.

To request an MEC presentation at your organization's (virtual or in-person) event, email <a href="mailto:Training@mec.mo.gov">Training@mec.mo.gov</a>



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Email: helpdesk@mec.mo.gov Website: www.mec.mo.gov

# **Employee Spotlight**

## Morgan Hill—Investigator

Prior to joining the MEC earlier this year, Morgan worked in the fraud unit of the Department of Labor, conducting criminal investigations on identity theft and unemployment insurance theft. Her investigative history, associate's degree in accounting, bachelor's degree in business administration, and master's degree in criminal justice make her a valuable member of the MEC's investigations team. In her spare time, you can find Morgan playing board games with her son, watching his sporting events, reading, or cheering on her favorite team, the Pittsburgh Steelers.

# 2020 Legislative Update

## Legislative Liaison Change

Starting August 2020, employees who meet the definition of a legislative liaison will no longer be classified as a legislative lobbyist, and will not be subject to prior restrictions and MEC requirements.

A legislative liaison is any state employee hired to communicate with members of the General Assembly on behalf of any elected official of the state; the judicial branch of state government; or any department, agency, board, or commission of the state, provided such entity is a part of the executive branch of state government.

#### **PFD Redaction Request**

State statute now allows for the redaction of a dependent child's name and employment information from a Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) statement upon filing a written request.

Click <u>here</u> to access the redaction request form. This form is also linked under the "How Do I" section on our homepage.

(Section 105.485.5, RSMo.)

# **Calendar Check**

Upcoming Filing Deadlines and Reminders:

November 3, 2020 General Election

#### October Quarterly Report

- •Close 09/3020
- •Due 10/15/20

#### 8 Day Before Election Report

- •Close 10/22/20
- •Due 10/26/20

11/03/20 Election

#### 30 Day After Election Report

- •Close 11/28/20
- •Due 12/03/20



Lobbyist Monthly Expenditure Reports Due by 5:00 p.m. on

- ⇒ 10/13/20
- ⇒ 11/10/20
- ⇒ 12/10/20

# **MEC Tips**

- Beginning 10/23 through Election Day, receipt of a contribution (including a loan) over \$250 must be reported within 24 hours of its receipt. You must also record this contribution in the committee's next filed report.
- Add all reporting deadlines to a personal calendar that will notify you of upcoming due dates. The MEC attempts to email reminders for campaign finance reports and lobbyist monthly expenditure reports, but reminders are not guaranteed.

The only way to avoid late filing fees is to timely file all reports.

